ISBN 0712-

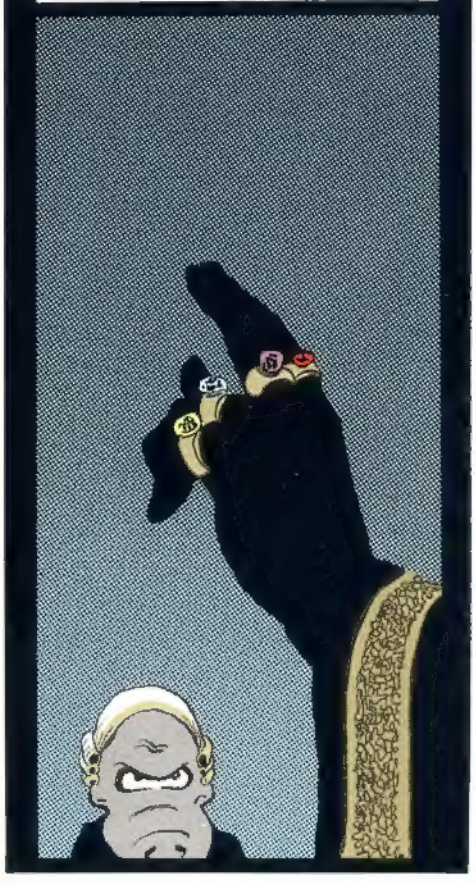
AARDVARK-VANAHEIM PRESENTS

CEREBUS

all lined up

58
JAN

$2
1.70 IN U.S.



A Note from the Publisher

This year we will be seeing a wide variety of guest artists in UNIQUE STORIES. This month is a bit of a departure for us, as we present a very "unique" viewpoint, that of our own Mike Bannon. Most of you know Mike from his appearances in our letter's pages. You can imagine our surprise when we received a submission for UNIQUE STORIES from him. True to form, the "Bannonesque" style left no doubt in our minds that this was something we had to share with you, our readers.

In February and March, you will be seeing Charles Treadwell's "Scratch", an engaging look at what happens when a young man summons a most unlikely demon. I must admit that I find "Scratch" to be definitely my kind of humour.

In issues 61-63 we will be introducing you to Bob Burden. Bob's FLAMING CARROT, a title Aardvark-Vanaheim plans to put out in 1984, is an adventure into superheroic da-da. If you have trouble picturing that, be sure to check out his "Adventures in Limbo" in #61, as well as his two-part Flaming Carrot story in #62 and #63.

In the summer issues (July and August) we will be presenting a very special story, "Ricky Robot". It is written by none other than Jerry Siegel (the co-creator of Superman), and is drawn by Dave Sim and Dan Day. It is, in my opinion, the most unusual collaberation we've published yet. The result is a story that has a "sweetness" to it that is seldom seen these days. We have also accepted stories from Tom Stazer (SPACED) and Michael Cherkas (Dick Mallet, see Cerebus #46 and #47), and a possible two-part story from Terry Beatty. With such a varied line-up, I am certain that there will be something in UNIQUE for everyone. Of course, with CEREBUS in the foreground it will be hard to be disappointed.

I just recently took a new look at what has been happening to our three-foot "hero" since our landmark issue, #50.

Through the last four issues we have watched him struggle to create an honest relationship with the Countess Detin. How much he succeeded in doing so is open to debate. I find myself questioning if Cerebus is mature enough to appreciate a person who is, so far as we can see, uninterested in gaining anything in particular from Cerebus.

Upon leaving the Countess, Cerebus seems to find himself in another of those unpredictable situations. If I were Cerebus, I would begin to not want to wake up from *any* evening spent drinking. It always seems to bring him bad news. What Weisshaupt is up to is anyone's guess. I smell larger matters afoot then is readily apparent, just on the basis of Weisshaupt's appearance on the scene. I re-read the final story in Swords of Cerebus, Volume Three (What Happened Between Issues 20 and 21) because a name in the last two issues rang a bell. Dave will give me no clues, so I guess all we can do is sit back and see where his devious mind takes us from here. I'd love to hear your opinion on the turn of events once you have read this issue. Who knows? You may sneak something out of him, yet. Until that time, see you next month!!

Deni

CEREBUS

VOL. 1 NO. 58 JANUARY 1984

Publisher: Deni Sim

Assistant to the Publisher:
Karen McKiel

Cover Separations
Mark Spencer

Circulation: 20,000

Distributors:
Bud Plant Inc.
P.O. Box 1886
Grass Valley, CA 95945

Glenwood Distribution
124 Vandalia St.
Collinsville, IL 62234

Capital City Distributors
2827 Perry Street
Madison, WI 53713

Diamond Comics
Distributors Inc.
1720 Belmont Ave.
Bay B - 2
Baltimore, MD 21207

Longhorn Books
9200 Chancellor Row
Dallas, TX 75247

Styx Comic Service
Box 3791, Stn. B
Winnipeg, Man., Canada
R2W 3R6

Now & Then Books
90 Queen St. South
Kitchener, Ontario, Canada
N2G 1V9

Andromeda Publications
367 Queen St. W.
Toronto, Ontario, Canada
M5V 2A4

Titan Distributors
P.O. Box 250
London, E3 4RT England

These issues are available wholesale & single copies from the above distributors.

Swords of Cerebus Vol. 1-5, Cerebus #'s 32, 33, 37, 38, 40, 43, 45, 46, 47, 48, 49, 50, 51, 53, 54, 55, 56 & 57.

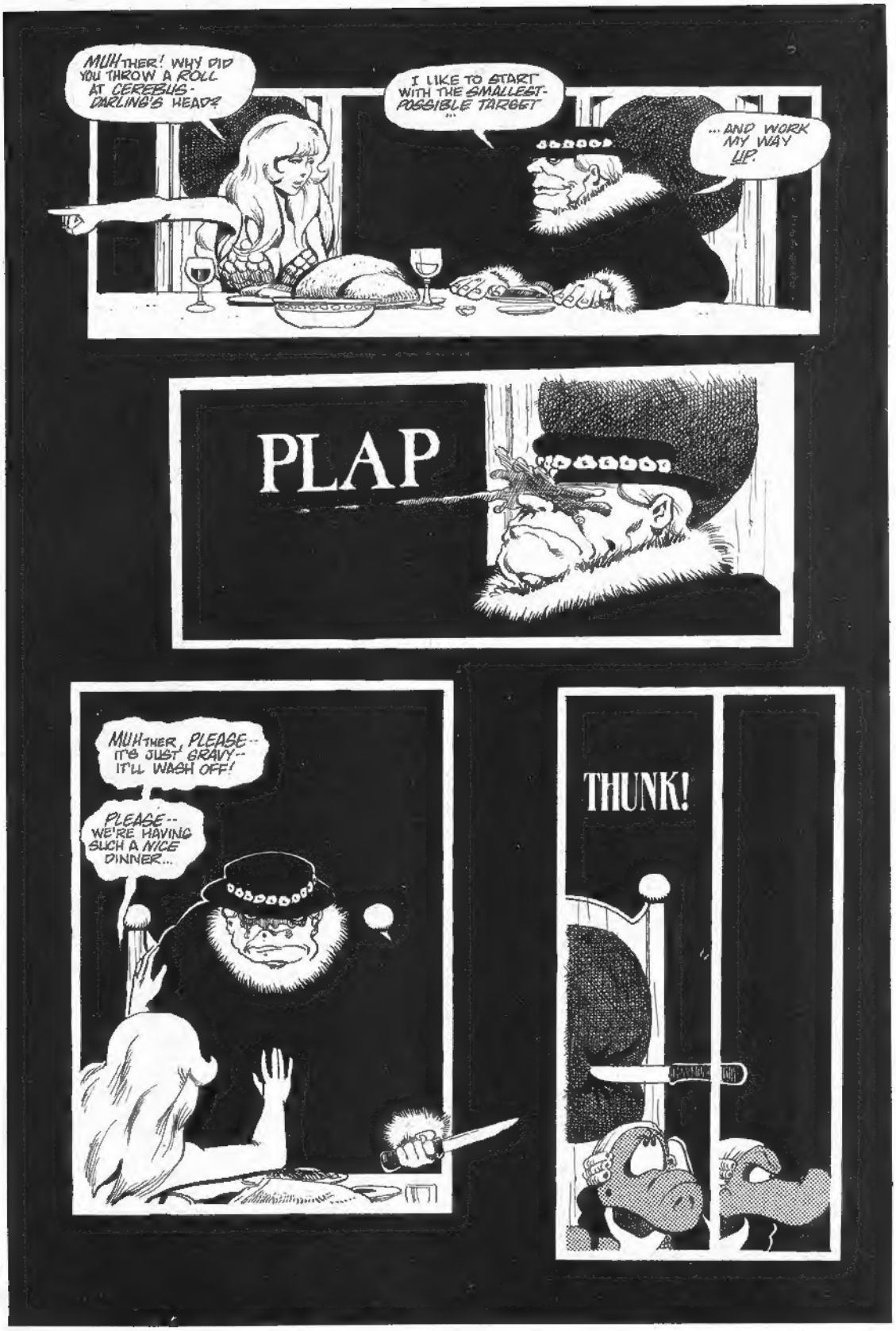
CEREBUS THE AARDVARK is published fifteen times a year by Aardvark-Vanaheim Inc., P.O. Box 1674 Station 'C', Kitchener, Ontario, Canada N2G 4R2, including three "Swords of Cerebus" in winter, spring and fall.

All contents © 1984 Dave Sim. Any inquiries regarding use of the characters, images, or situations depicted should be addressed to Deni Sim. No unauthorized reproduction allowed except for review or other Journalistic purpose.

Advertising rates furnished on request. Printed in Canada by Preney Print and Litho Inc., Windsor, Ontario.

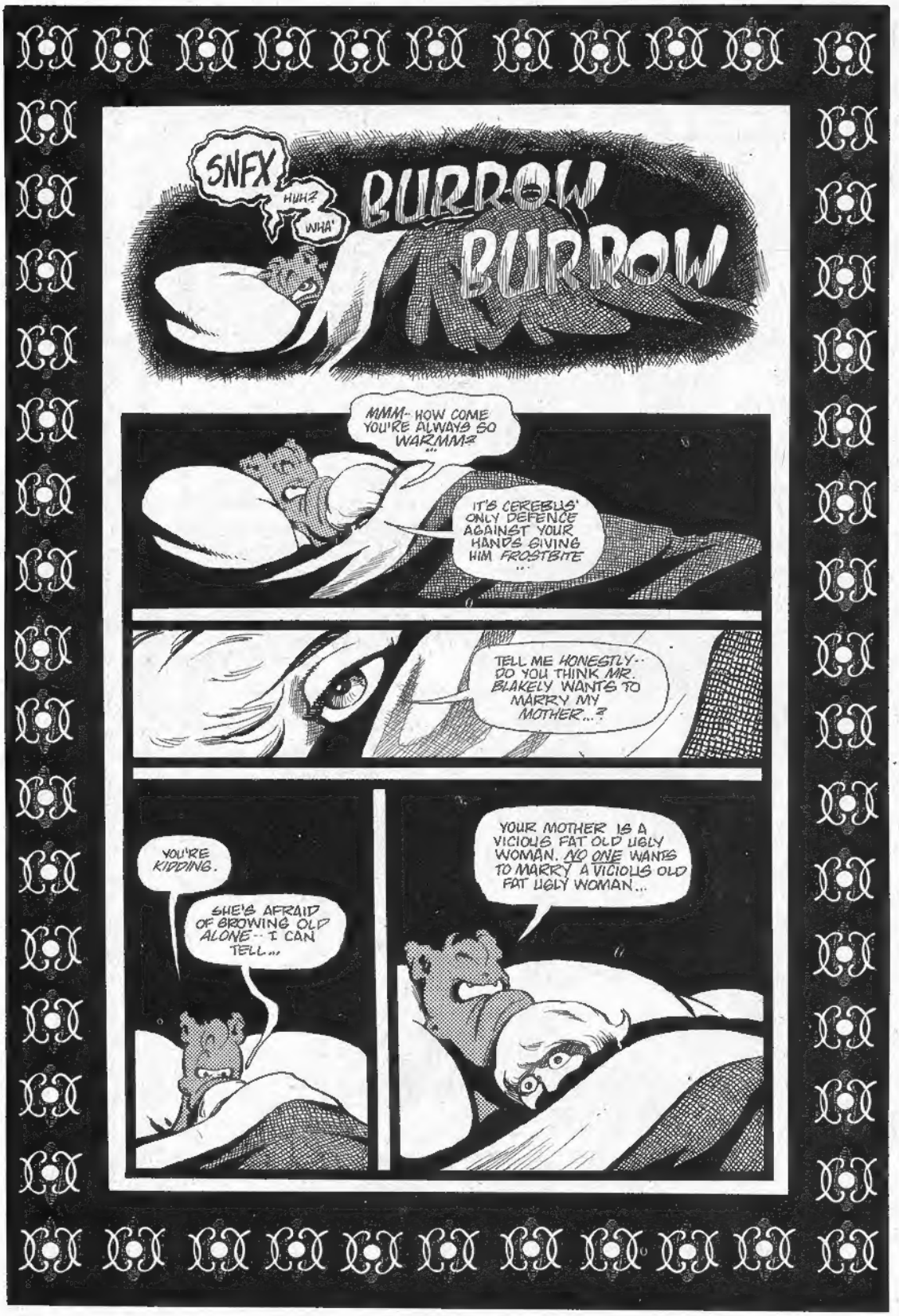
a l l
The Prime Minister
and
Mrs. The Aardvark
Cordially Invite
Harmon Blakely II
to
Dinner This Evening
THE AMBASSADOR SUITE
l i n e d
u p
MY HEALTH IS NOT GOOD, MR. BLAKELY... THE JOURNEY FROM NEW SEPRA SEVERELY TAXED MY ENERGIES ...
SIGH
I FEAR I'M NOT LONG FOR THIS WORLD ...
SURELY NOT, MRS. HENROT ...
YOU SEEM THE VERY PICTURE OF VITALITY ...

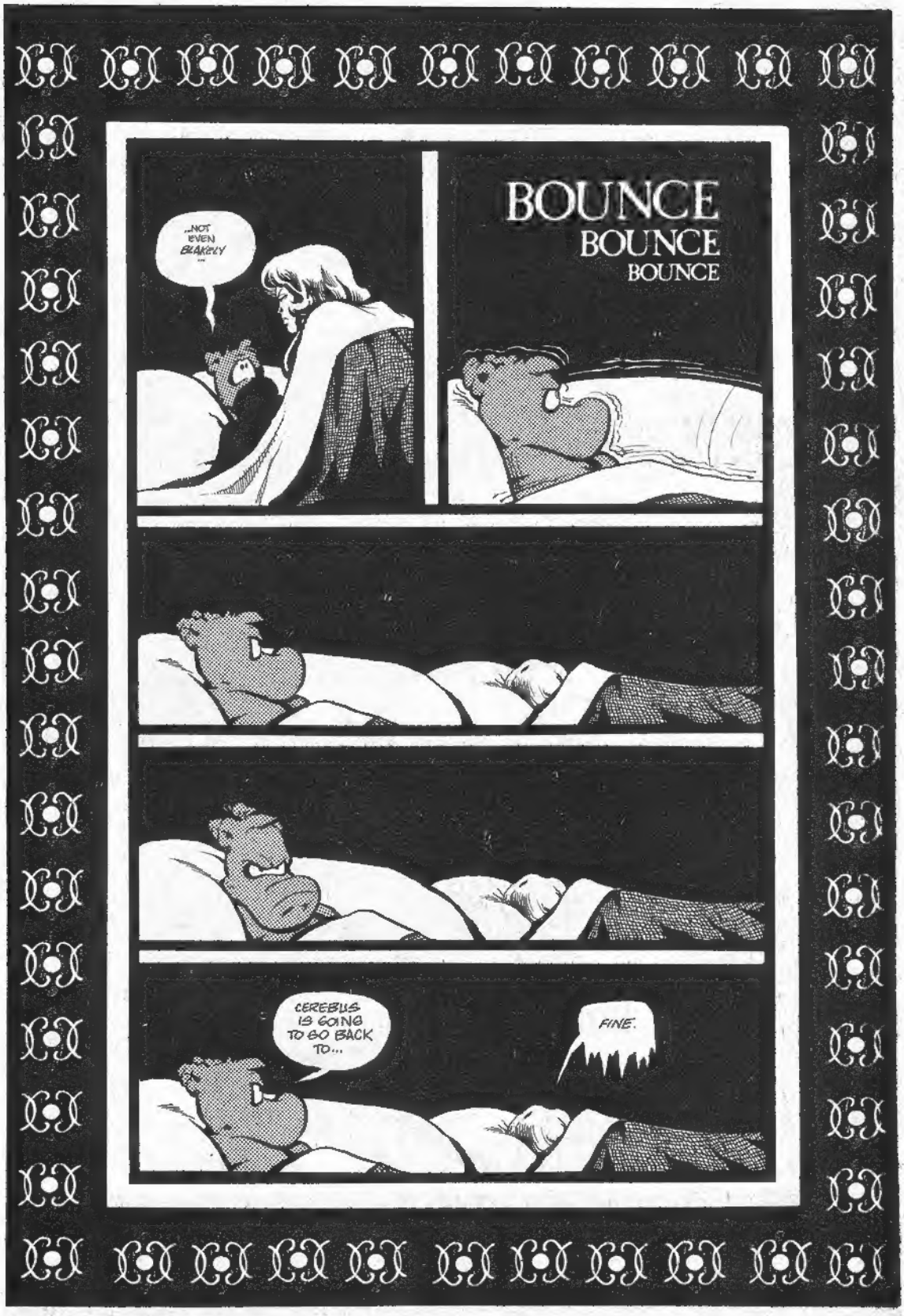
HENROT-GLITCH... I USE MY MAIDEN NAME, AS WELL
MY PHYSICIAN ASSURES ME THAT IT ALL STEMS FROM HAVING THIN BLOOD...
GOODNESS! AND IS THERE NOTHING THAT CAN BE DONE ABOUT THIS ... THIN BLOOD?
WE'RE HOPING IT SPREADS TO HER STOMACH...
BAF!
DID YOU SEE THAT?! DID YOU!?
SHE THREW A ROLL AT CEREBUS' HEAD!
CEREBUS, DARLING-- STOP WAVING YOUR FORK -- IT'S RUDE...

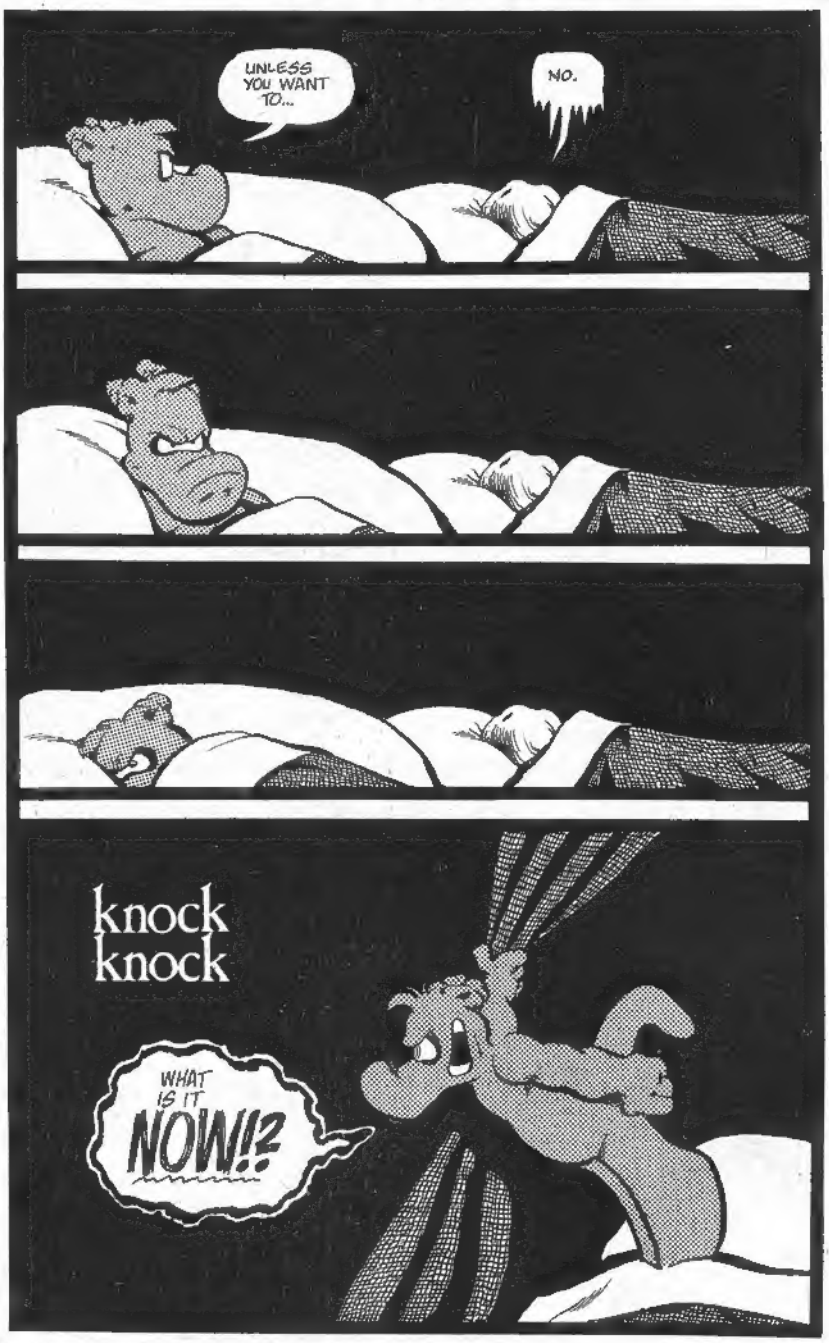

MUHTHER! WHY DID YOU THROW A ROLL AT CEREBUS-DARLING'S HEAD?
I LIKE TO START WITH THE SMALLEST-POSSIBLE TARGET ...
... AND WORK MY WAY UP.
PLAP
MUHTHER, PLEASE-- IT'S JUST GRAVY-- IT'LL WASH OFF!
PLEASE-- WE'RE HAVING SUCH A NICE DINNER...
THUNK!

PUT THAT CHAIR DOWN, YOU LITTLE WORM -- OR I'LL MAKE YOU EAT IT!!
BASH!
MISSED ME! HAHAAHAHA!
HOLD STILL YOU OLD BAG!..
THANK YOU FOR COMING, MR. BLAKELY -- I'M SORRY THE PRIME MINISTER DIDN'T GET A CHANCE TO LOOK OVER YOUR ECONOMIC REFORM PROPOSALS...
NOT AT ALL. DO TELL YOUR MOTHER THAT I HOPE SHE'S FEELING BETTER SOON...
I WILL.

CEREBUS DARLING...?
ARE YOU AWAKE? ...
I HAVE TO TALK ...
DO IT IN THE LIVING ROOM-- CEREBUS IS TRYING TO SLEEP!
NONO!
I MEAN I HAVE TO TALK TO YOU!...
CEREBUS WAS AFRAID OF THAT ...


SNFX
HUH?
WHA'
BURROW
BURROW
MMM-- HOW COME YOU'RE ALWAYS SO WARMM?
IT'S CEREBUS' ONLY DEFENCE AGAINST YOUR HANDS GIVING HIM FROSTBITE
TELL ME HONESTLY-- DO YOU THINK MR. BLAKELY WANTS TO MARRY MY MOTHER...?
YOU'RE KIDDING.
SHE'S AFRAID OF GROWING OLD ALONE-- I CAN TELL...
YOUR MOTHER IS A VICIOUS FAT OLD UGLY WOMAN. NO ONE WANTS TO MARRY A VICIOUS OLD FAT UGLY WOMAN...


...NOT EVEN BLAKELY ...
BOUNCE
BOUNCE
BOUNCE
CEREBUS IS GOING TO GO BACK TO...
FINE.

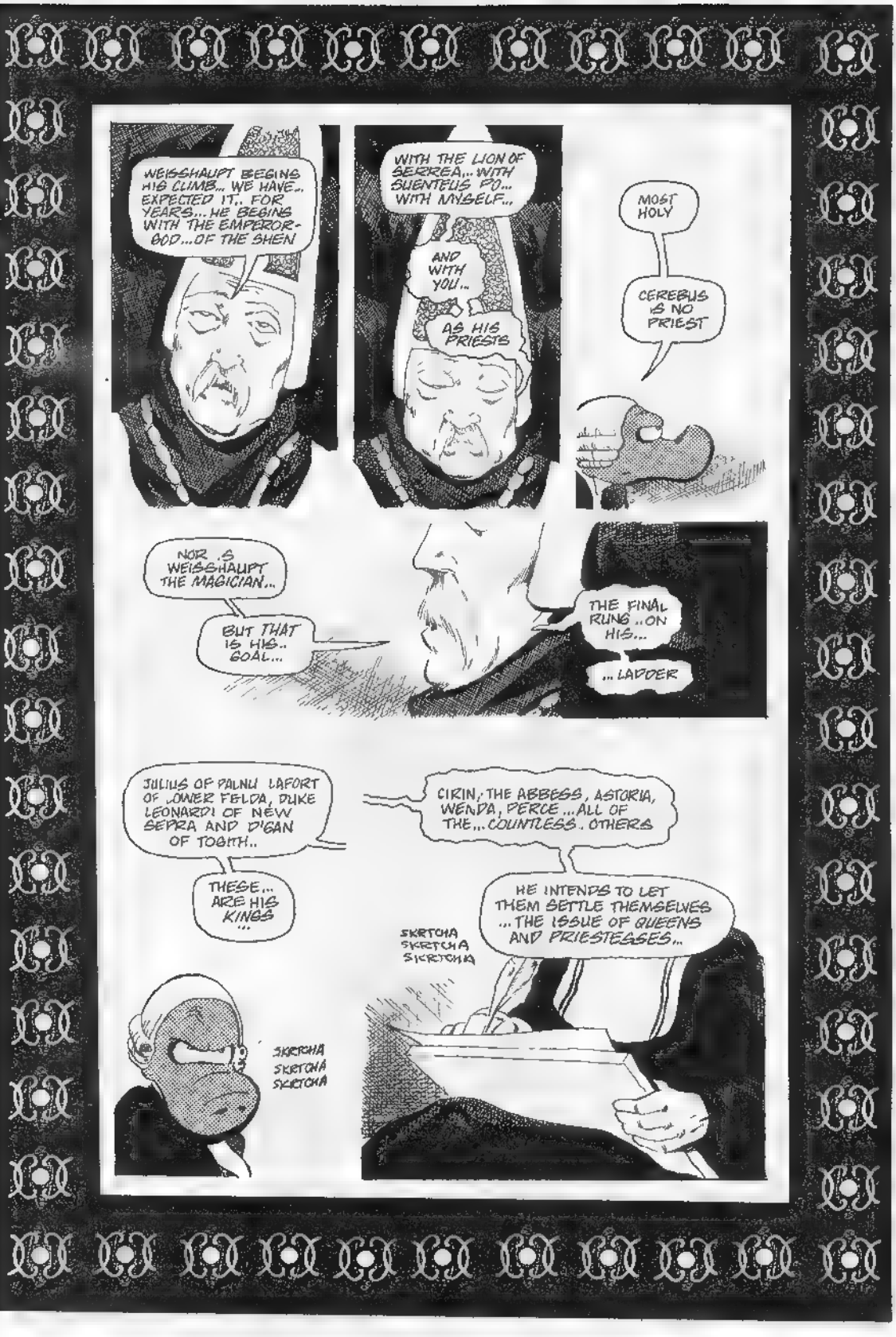

UNLESS YOU WANT TO...
NO.
knock knock
WHAT IS IT NOW!?

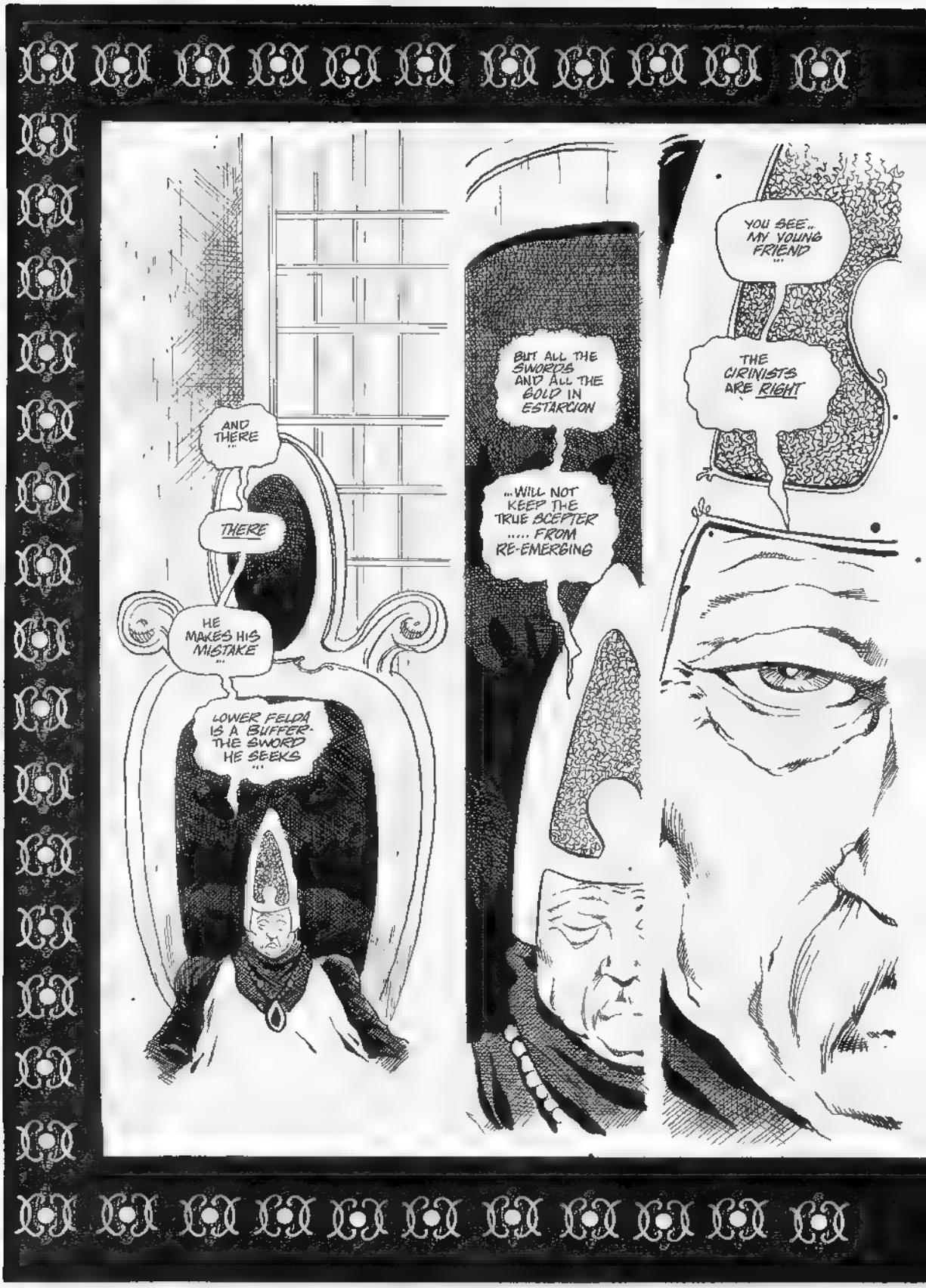
A- REQUEST FOR A BRIEF MEETING
FROM HIS HOLINESS POPE HARMONY III
HARMONY III?
YOU MEAN HARMONY II.
POPE HARMONY II WAS EXECUTED A WEEK AFTER YOU RESIGNED, MR PRIME MINISTER
THEN THE NEW ONE SHOULD BE HARMONY III...
NO, MR PRIME MINISTER - HARMONY III WAS EXECUTED BY "THE NEW ONE."
A MONTH OR SO AGO...
OH.
HE'D LIKE TO SPEAK TO YOU, PRIVATELY, IN THE CENTRAL TOWER...
WITH A REPRESENTATIVE OF "THE LION OF SERREA" IN ATTENDANCE, OF COURSE...

of course
CEREBUS WILL BE READY IN A FEW MINUTES
CEREBUS IS GOING TO MEET THE ...
I HEARD
WHEN CEREBUS GETS BACK, DO YOU WANT TO.
NO

AH! THE PRIME MINISTER
COME IN.
COME IN..

MOST HOLY
NOTHING.. WOULD PLEASE US MORE THAN TO HEAR OF YOUR ADVENTUROUS.. LIFE .. WE HEAR SO LITTLE ...OF THE WORLD OUTSIDE
UNFORTUNATELY
UNFORTUNATELY
WE HAVE SO VERY LITTLE
TIME
SO HEAR US WELL, MY...YOUNG FRIEND. REMEMBER WHAT IS SAID ..HERE..TODAY
BE WISE...OUR FATE RESTS...ON YOUR SHOULDERS
RELENTLESS CHANGE..OVER-TAKES US.. ALL OF US.
EACH ACTION WE TAKE ..ACCELERATES ..THE CHANGE. BUT WE ARE NOT...ENTIRELY. HELPLESS..
SKRTCH SKRTCH
SKRTCH
SKRTCHA SKRTCHA

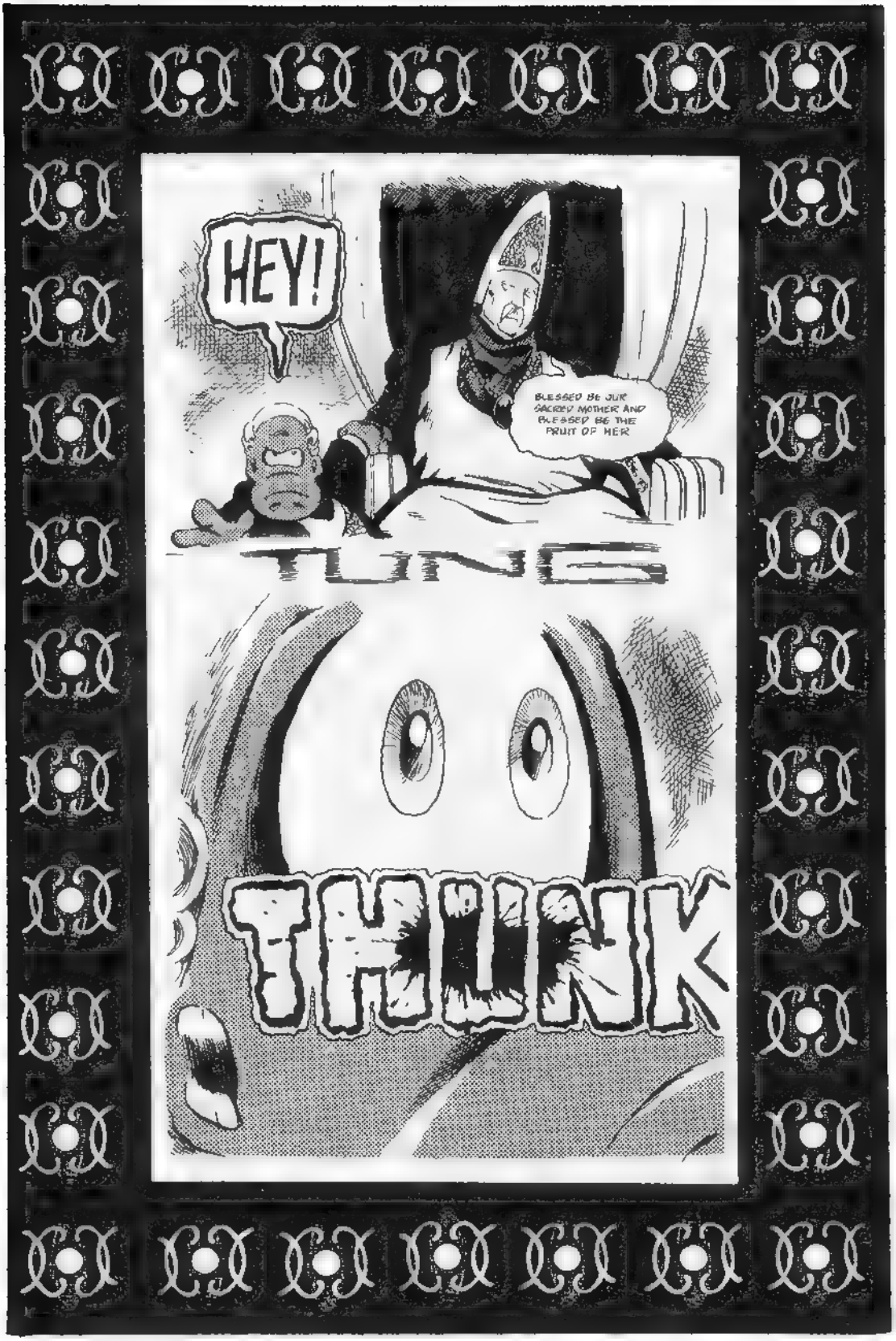

WEISSHAUPT BEGINS HIS CLIMB.. WE HAVE.. EXPECTED IT.. FOR YEARS... HE BEGINS WITH THE EMPEROR-GOD... OF THE SHEN
WITH THE LION OF SERREA... WITH SUENTEUS PO... WITH MYSELF...
AND WITH YOU...
AS HIS PRIESTS
MOST HOLY
CEREBUS IS NO PRIEST
NOR IS WEISSHAUPT THE MAGICIAN...
BUT THAT IS HIS.. GOAL...
THE FINAL RUNG ..ON HIS...
...LADDER
JULIUS OF PALNU LAFORT OF LOWER FELDA, DUKE LEONARDI OF NEW SERRA AND D'GAN OF TOGITH..
THESE... ARE HIS KINGS ...
CIRIN, THE ABBESS, ASTORIA, WENDA, PERCE ...ALL OF THE... COUNTLESS. OTHERS
HE INTENDS TO LET THEM SETTLE THEMSELVES ...THE ISSUE OF QUEENS AND PRIESTESSES..
SKRTCHA SKRTCHA SKRTCHA
SKRTCHA SKRTCHA SKRTCHA


YOU SEE.. MY YOUNG FRIEND ...
THE CIRINISTS ARE RIGHT
BUT ALL THE SWORDS AND ALL THE GOLD IN ESTARCION
...WILL NOT KEEP THE TRUE SCEPTER ..... FROM RE-EMERGING
AND THERE ...
THERE
HE MAKES HIS MISTAKE ...
LOWER FELDA IS A BUFFER. THE SWORD HE SEEKS ...

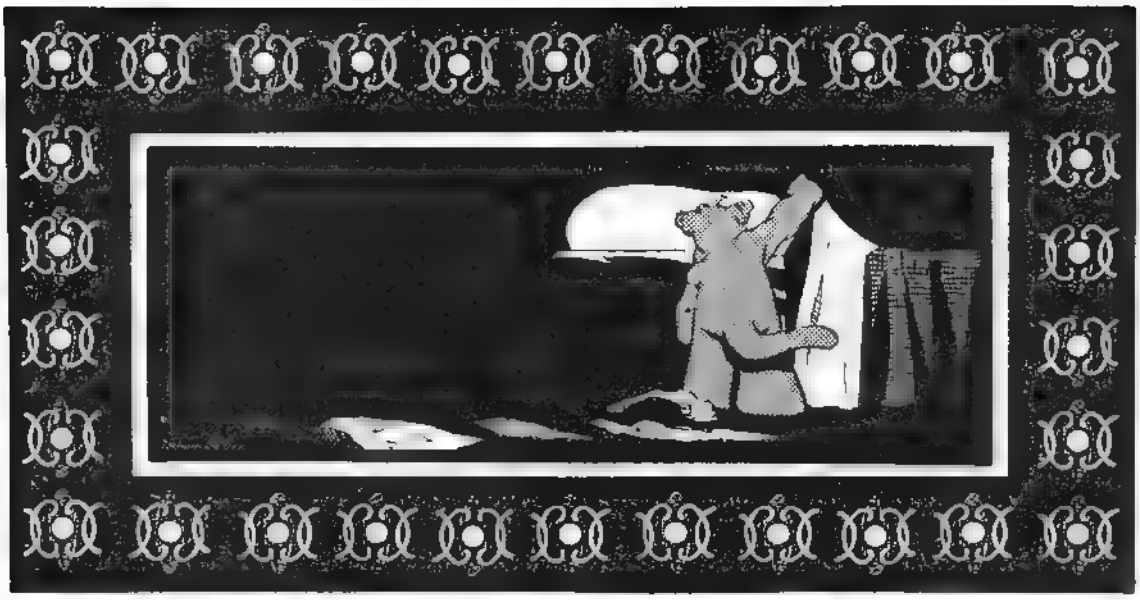
A LIVE BIRTH IS THE ONLY SUITABLE MEASURE OF A CITIZEN'S WORTH
ONE LIVE BIRTH...
ONE VOTE...
THE RIGHT TO OWN LAND...
THE RIGHT TO HANDLE CURRENCY...
TO OWN MEN.
SKRTCHA SKRTCHA SKRTCHA...
ESTARCION HAS BEEN, FOR GENERATIONS, IN THE HANDS OF KINGS AND PRIESTS...
COURTING PRIESTESSES AND OWNING QUEENS...
THE PRIESTESSES HAVE GROWN COMPLACENT...
BUT THE VOICE OF THE QUEENS GROWS STRONGER...
WEISSHAUPT... UNDERESTIMATES THAT VOICE.... HE WATCHES THE VALUE OF UPPER FELDA'S CURRENCY.... STUDIES REPORTS OF HER MILITARY STRENGTH...
BUT HE DOES NOT HEAR THE VOICE...
HE THINKS HIS ...NEW TOY... WILL STILL THE VOICE...
WHEN ALL IT WILL DO IS...
INCREASE THE CASUALTIES...
BECAUSE IT IS CIRIN-- NOT WEISSHAUPT WHO WILL PREVAIL...

COME CLOSER
GIVE ME YOUR HAND ...
YOUR EYES ARE AS WIDE AS SAUCERS ...YOU'VE BEEN A BELIEVER IN OUR CHURCH FOR AS LONG AS YOU CAN REMEMBER ..
LONGER
THE GRAND INQUISITOR MADE A MOCKERY OF YOUR--OF ALL OUR FAITHS...
WE CAN BELIEVE IN OURSELVES ...IN OUR INFALLIBILITY
no longer
YOU MUST STOP HIM, WEISSHAUPT WILL CONTINUE THE LIE...
YOU MUST NOT ALLOW IT..

KRAK
SOMETHING FELL!
YES.
SOMETHING FELL.
"MEMORY FADES"
"AND THE STARS DRAW NEAR."
YOU HAVE THE EVIDENCE WE NEED?
AYE.
ANOTHER KEVILL.ST?
NO. A CIRINIST AND A FOLLOWER OF SORCEROUS FAITHS ...
THEN, BY AUTHORITY OF THE LION OF SERREA ...
WHAT ARE THEY DOING?
...THE WILL OF TARIM IS ASSERTED ...
ONCE AGAIN


HEY!
BLESSED BE OUR SACRED MOTHER AND BLESSED BE THE FRUIT OF HER
TUNG
THUNK

YOU'RE BACK!!
SO WHAT DID YOU TALK ABOUT? HUH?
WHAT'S HE LIKE? WHAT DID HE SAY?
IS HE TALL?
..SHORT? WHAT?



I'M STILL AWAKE DO YOU WANT TO...
NO.

make cheques payable to

90 queen street south

now and then books

kitchener · ontario · n2g 1w1

(519) 744-5571

Back Issues

Cerebus No. 8 - 15	$10.00 each	75¢ postage per book
Cerebus No. 16, 17 & 21	$ 6.00 each	
Cerebus No. 23, 25 - 27	$ 4.00 each	
Cerebus No. 28 - 49	$ 1.50 each	

Swords of Cerebus, Vol. 1 - 4 $5.00 each - 75¢ post. & hand.

F.O.O.G. Portfolio - $7.00 plus $1.00 post. & hand.

Subscriptions (Cerebus)

12 issues for $22.00 in Canada, $25.00 in U.S. or Foreign (includes all postage) wrapped securely and mailed flat. Indicate which issue subscription starts with. Air mail subscriptions now available for outside North America. $40.00 for one year subscription.

The Official CEREBUS TOY

(sword not included)

Send $15.00 & $3.00 postage to Now & Then Books

Original Artwork

$2.00 postage and handling

(Pages Available) — list alternates

$50 per page

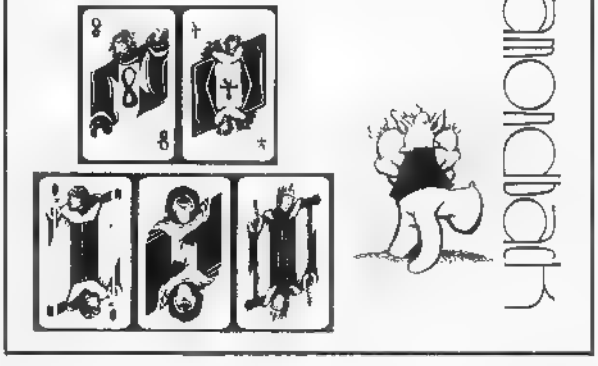
No. 2 pgs. 6, 11, 20, 22
No. 3 pgs. 7, 18
No. 5 pgs. 5, 10, 16
No. 8 pg. 15
No. 10 pgs. 9, 12, 13, 14, 18
No. 11 pgs. 2, 17, 21
No. 13 pgs. 3, 6, 8, 9, 10
No. 15 pgs. 7,
No. 16 pgs. 8, 10, 11, 12, 13, 15, 18
No. 17 pgs. 7, 8, 10, 12
No. 18 pgs. 1, 2, 3, 4, 6, 13, 15, 20
No. 19 pgs. 3, 4, 5, 6
No. 20 pgs. 1, 20
No. 21 pgs. 9, 12, 20
No. 22 pgs. 4, 5, 11, 12, 13, 15
No. 23 pgs. 14, 18, 19
No. 25 pags. 7, 9, 10, 14, 19
No. 28 pgs. 17, 19, 20

Demonhorn Story (Nucleus) pgs. 3, 5

$100 per page

No. 31 pgs. 13, 14
No. 34 pg. 6

$2.95



Subscriptions

Neil the Horse and Journey

6 issues for

$11.00 in Canada, $12.50 in US or Foreign

Single copies available too

Posters

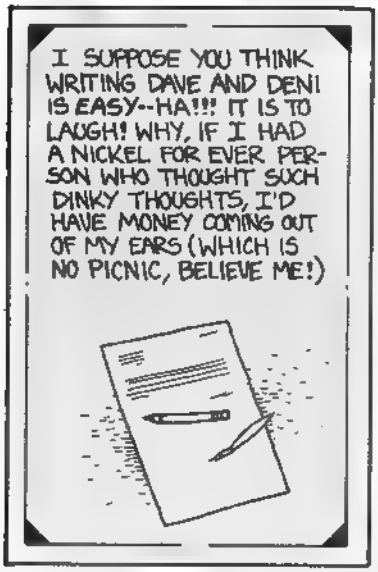
$2.50 EACH (signed and numbered) 4 colour 1977 50¢ postage and handling

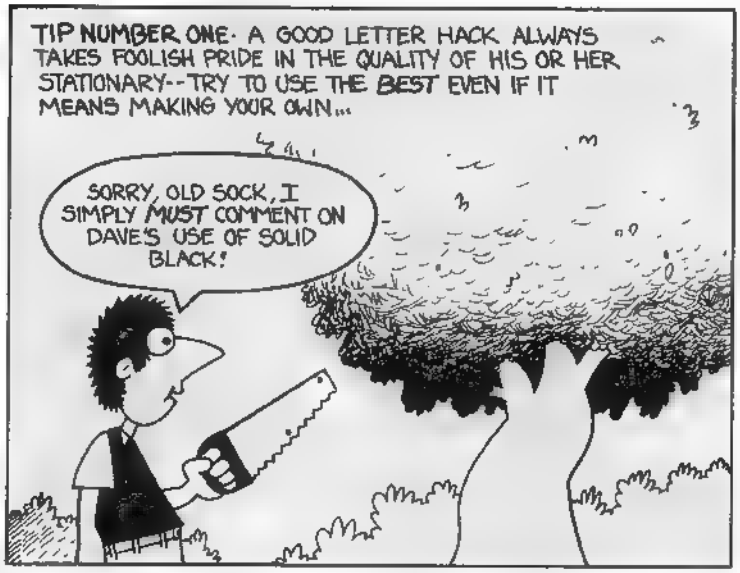
$1.00 EACH 50¢ postage & handling

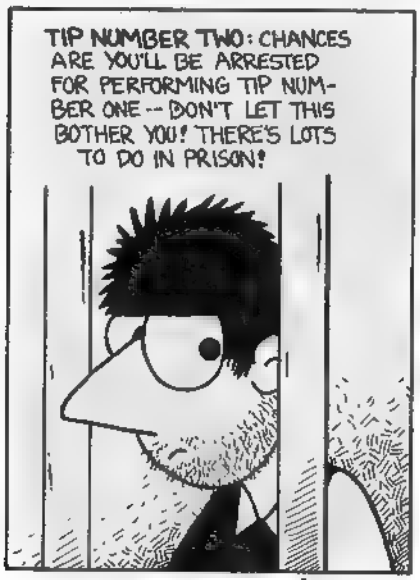
A UNIQUE STORY

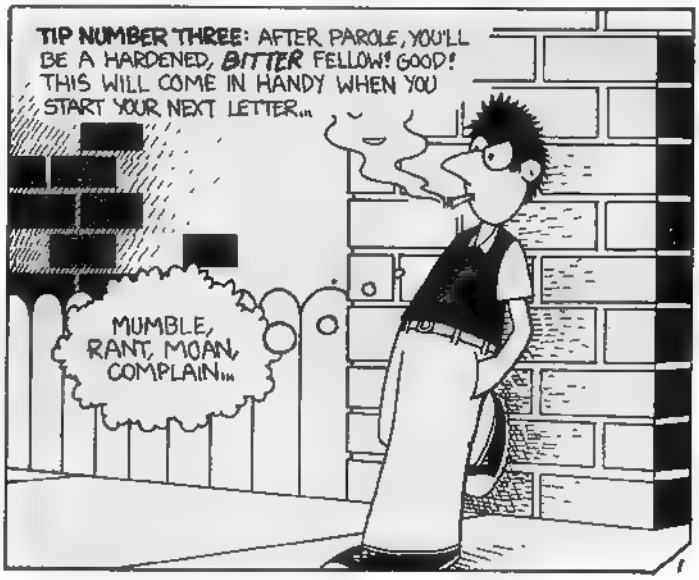
TEN HANDY TIPS FOR WRITING DAVE AND DENI

BY MIKE BANNON

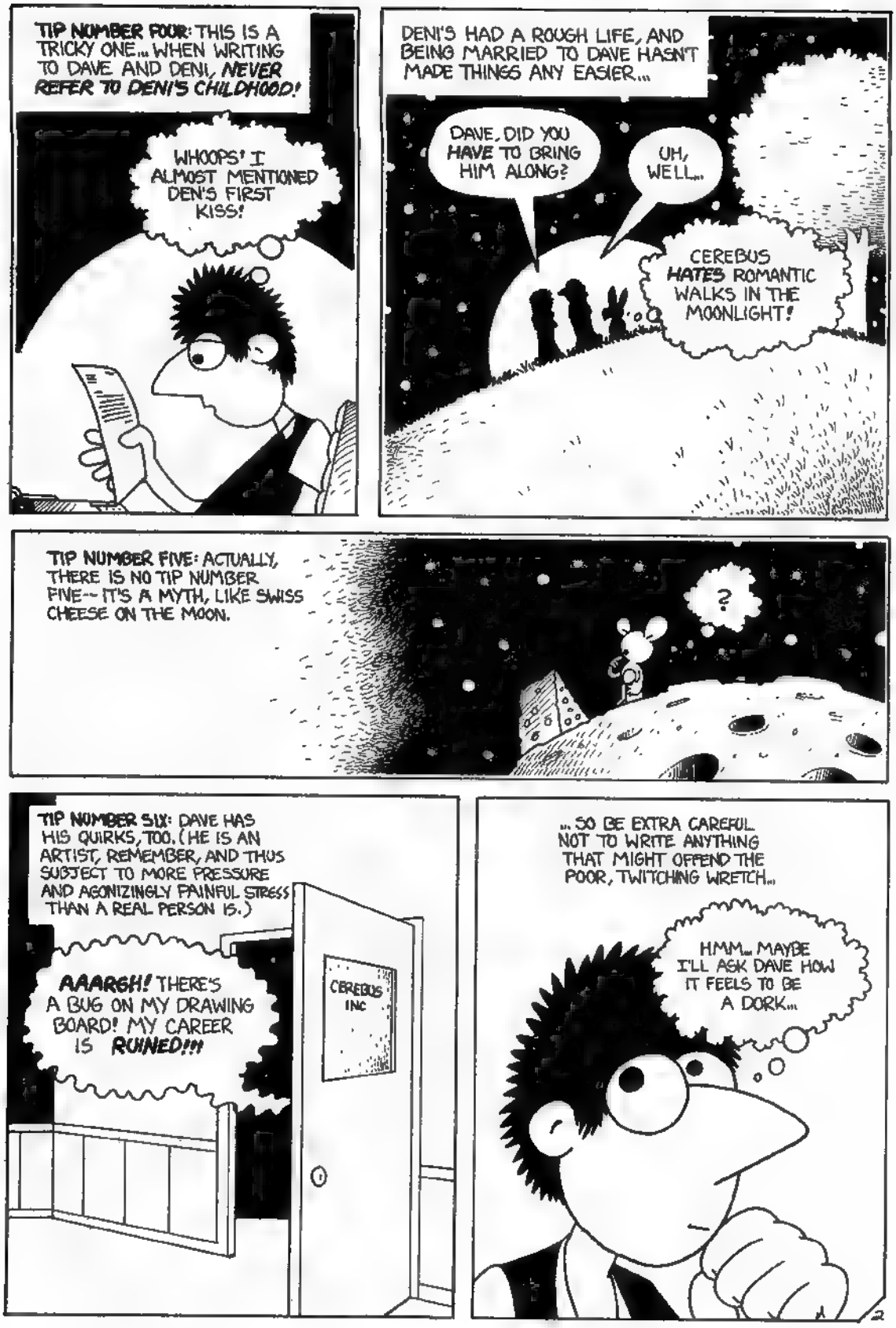

I SUPPOSE YOU THINK WRITING DAVE AND DENI IS EASY--HA!!! IT IS TO LAUGH! WHY, IF I HAD A NICKEL FOR EVER PERSON WHO THOUGHT SUCH DINKY THOUGHTS, I'D HAVE MONEY COMING OUT OF MY EARS (WHICH IS NO PICNIC, BELIEVE ME!)


TIP NUMBER ONE: A GOOD LETTER HACK ALWAYS TAKES FOOLISH PRIDE IN THE QUALITY OF HIS OR HER STATIONARY--TRY TO USE THE BEST EVEN IF IT MEANS MAKING YOUR OWN...
SORRY, OLD SOCK, I SIMPLY MUST COMMENT ON DAVE'S USE OF SOLID BLACK!


TIP NUMBER TWO: CHANCES ARE YOU'LL BE ARRESTED FOR PERFORMING TIP NUMBER ONE -- DON'T LET THIS BOTHER YOU! THERE'S LOTS TO DO IN PRISON!


TIP NUMBER THREE: AFTER PAROLE, YOU'LL BE A HARDENED, BITTER FELLOW! GOOD! THIS WILL COME IN HANDY WHEN YOU START YOUR NEXT LETTER...
MUMBLE, RANT, MOAN, COMPLAIN...

©1983 MIKE BANNON


TIP NUMBER FOUR: THIS IS A TRICKY ONE... WHEN WRITING TO DAVE AND DENI, NEVER REFER TO DENI'S CHILDHOOD!
WHOOPS! I ALMOST MENTIONED DEN'S FIRST KISS!
DENI'S HAD A ROUGH LIFE, AND BEING MARRIED TO DAVE HASN'T MADE THINGS ANY EASIER...
DAVE, DID YOU HAVE TO BRING HIM ALONG?
UH, WELL...
CEREBUS HATES ROMANTIC WALKS IN THE MOONLIGHT!
TIP NUMBER FIVE: ACTUALLY, THERE IS NO TIP NUMBER FIVE-- IT'S A MYTH, LIKE SWISS CHEESE ON THE MOON.
?
TIP NUMBER SIX: DAVE HAS HIS QUIRKS, TOO. (HE IS AN ARTIST, REMEMBER, AND THUS SUBJECT TO MORE PRESSURE AND AGONIZINGLY PAINFUL STRESS THAN A REAL PERSON IS.)
AAARGH! THERE'S A BUG ON MY DRAWING BOARD! MY CAREER IS RUINED!!!
CEREBUS INC
...SO BE EXTRA CAREFUL NOT TO WRITE ANYTHING THAT MIGHT OFFEND THE POOR, TWITCHING WRETCH...
HMM... MAYBE I'LL ASK DAVE HOW IT FEELS TO BE A DORK...

TIP NUMBER SEVEN: DON'T SUCK THE HELIUM OUT OF YOUR BALLOONS WHILE COMPOSING YOUR LETTER. I REALIZE IT'S TEMPTING, BUT YOU'RE JUST ASKING FOR A NOSEBLEED.

I WONDER... WOULD IT BE IMPOLITE TO ASK DAVE FOR AN AUTOGRAPHED PENCIL-STUB?

TIP NUMBER EIGHT: MAKE SURE YOUR GARLIC CLOVES ARE FRESH! YOU DON'T WANT ANY VAMPIRES CREEPING UP ON YOU WHILE YOU'RE WRITING, DO YOU? WELL?

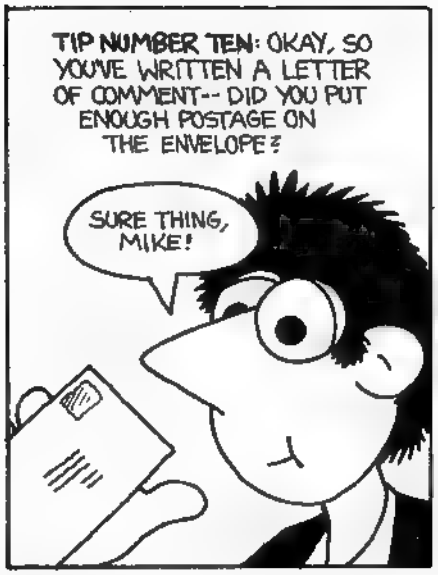
HISS! HISS!

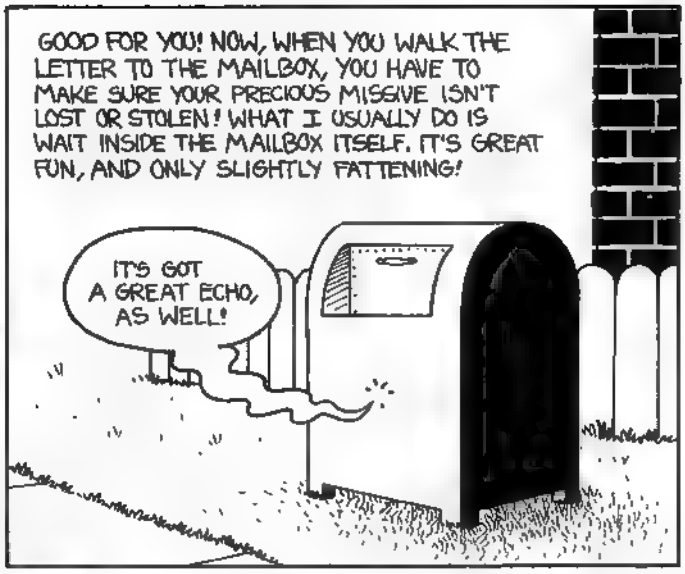
RUB! RUB!

PUSH! SHOVE!

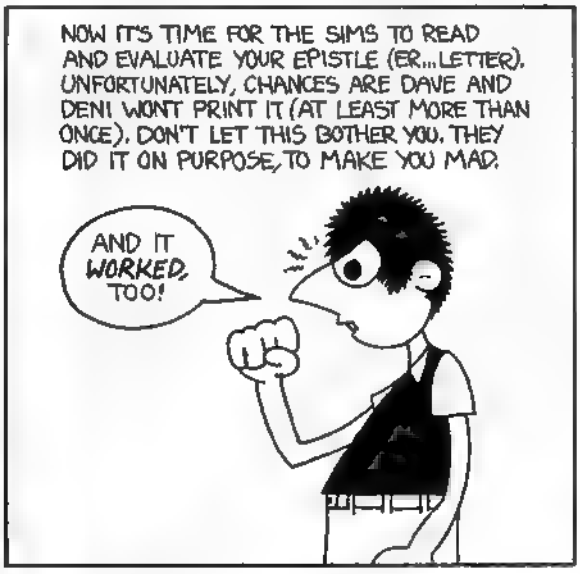
TIP NUMBER NINE: KEEP YOUR COMMENTS LUCID AND TO-THE-POINT! DON'T BORE DAVE AND DENI WITH YOUR PERSONAL LIFE. YOU DON'T SEE *ME* DOING THAT!

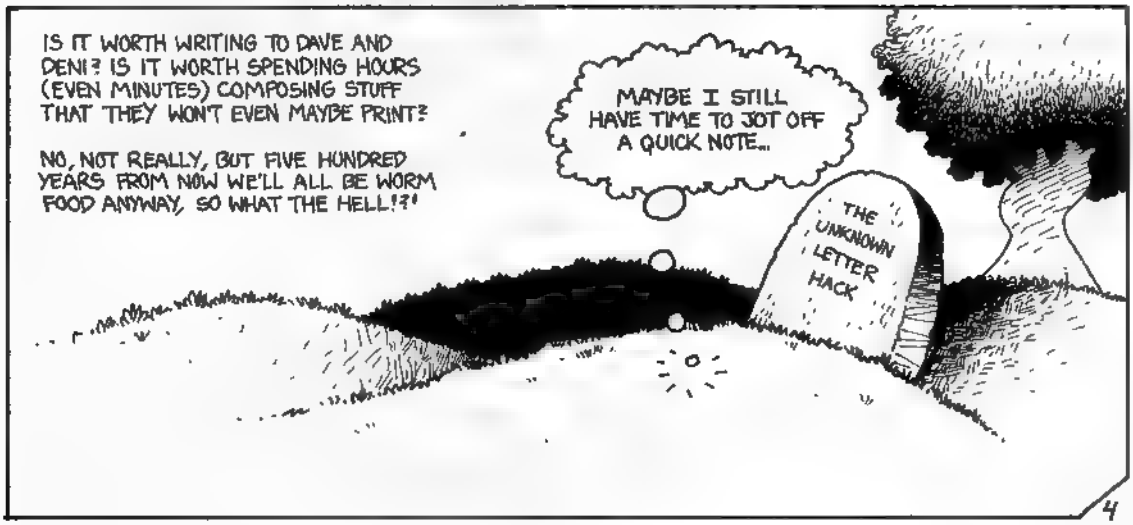
BY THE WAY, HERE ARE SOME SNAPSHOTS OF MY TRIP TO JELLYSTONE PARK...

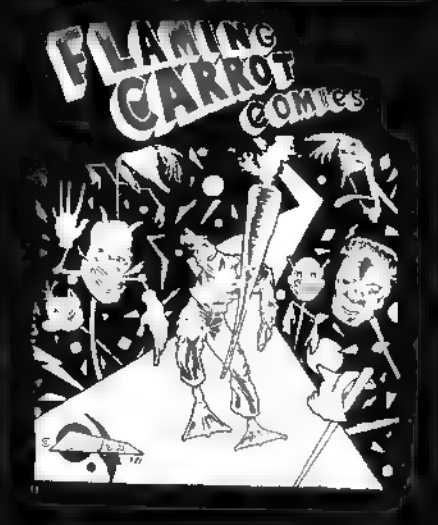

TIP NUMBER TEN: OKAY, SO YOU'VE WRITTEN A LETTER OF COMMENT-- DID YOU PUT ENOUGH POSTAGE ON THE ENVELOPE?
SURE THING, MIKE!


GOOD FOR YOU! NOW, WHEN YOU WALK THE LETTER TO THE MAILBOX, YOU HAVE TO MAKE SURE YOUR PRECIOUS MISSIVE ISN'T LOST OR STOLEN! WHAT I USUALLY DO IS WAIT INSIDE THE MAILBOX ITSELF. IT'S GREAT FUN, AND ONLY SLIGHTLY FATTENING!
IT'S GOT A GREAT ECHO, AS WELL!

WHEN YOUR LETTER FINALLY REACHES ONTARIO, IT WILL BE HAND-DELIVERED TO DAVE AND DENI'S DOORSTEP BY A LOYAL AND THOROUGHLY DEPENDABLE MOUNTIE!
LETTER FOR CEREBUS!


NOW IT'S TIME FOR THE SIMS TO READ AND EVALUATE YOUR EPISTLE (ER...LETTER). UNFORTUNATELY, CHANCES ARE DAVE AND DENI WON'T PRINT IT (AT LEAST MORE THAN ONCE). DON'T LET THIS BOTHER YOU. THEY DID IT ON PURPOSE, TO MAKE YOU MAD.
AND IT WORKED, TOO!


IS IT WORTH WRITING TO DAVE AND DENI? IS IT WORTH SPENDING HOURS (EVEN MINUTES) COMPOSING STUFF THAT THEY WON'T EVEN MAYBE PRINT?
NO, NOT REALLY, BUT FIVE HUNDRED YEARS FROM NOW WE'LL ALL BE WORM FOOD ANYWAY, SO WHAT THE HELL!?!
MAYBE I STILL HAVE TIME TO JOT OFF A QUICK NOTE...
THE UNKNOWN LETTER HACK



EVEN MORE IN 84

CEREBUS

NEIL THE HORSE

JOURNEY

NORMALMAN

FLAMING CARROT

AARDVARK COMMENT

P.O. BOX 1674, STATION 'C', KITCHENER, ONTARIO N2G 4R2

Dear Dave:

Hello once again. We met briefly at Altacon, where I asked for a sketch of a potato salad (and wasn't the first to have done so dadb.astit!) and to have my #55 signed "To Zucchini" (Now, you say, "Ah, you're that vegetable I met in Edmonton...").

Firstly, I'd like to say that the last few issues of Cerebus have been better and better, artistically, in some of your use of light and shadow, especially I like the Countess very much, too! (Some of the white backgrounds I can do without --the characters look lost in them -- but this is just one legume's opinion).

Recent events in Estarcion have me a bit lost. If I may make so bold as to ask a few questions.

1) How long has it been since Cerebus lost power in Iest?

2) How did Weisshaupt get out of his previous troubles? The ending of #22 implied he'd be nailed for treason, a very hard rap to beat

3) More importantly, how did Weisshaupt get Lord Julius to sign treaties towards creating the United Feldwar States? As the wealthiest nation there is, how could Palnu possibly benefit by membership with poorer states? I would think that Lord Julius would benefit most from a disorganised opposition, not poor allies

4) What is the current state of affairs with the Eastern and Western churches? Are they still co-operating in Iest, or has the schism resumed?

5) Is this schism involved with Terim, Tarim?

Actually, I could go on asking questions about the political side for a long afternoon. Why not have Cerebus read a newspaper for us. If you must, get him bonked on the conker so we can have a revealing "Mind Game III"!

Thanks for reading -- as your reward, please find enclosed two photos from Altacon. I suggest the captions "Dave Sim overshadowing Sergio Aragones" and "Dave Sim and Sergio Aragones Become Partners in Fleecing Thirteen-Year-Olds of Lunch Money."

Come back to Alberta soon, y'hear?

Larry Muddleton, a.k.a. "Zucchini"
10911 79 Ave. (basement)
Edmonton, Alberta T6G 0P1

1) Eight issues. No, seriously, Cerebus lost power in the late winter of 1414. As of this issue's story, it is early summer of that same year.

2) I'm getting to that. Patience Patience.

3) This will be answered next issue (I think).

4) This is answered in this issue (I think).

5) Yes, but then, again, what isn't

* * * * * * * * * * *

Dear D and D.,

A perfectly impartial greeting, since I'm not sure whose name should come first, I'm not sure it makes much difference, but I wouldn't want to unintentionally slight either one of you. It is obvious that "Cerebus" wouldn't be where it is without either of you

That seems like a silly opening, but hey! It's an intro. I mean, this is my first letter to a comic book (Is it awfully obvious? I feel very self-conscious.) At any rate, there are a variety of reasons why I am writing. I have been part of the silent majority. Not that 'Silent Majority' which seems to have become the 'Moral Majority', but one of those people who has refrained from public comment In one sense, I am writing to correct that situation

The main reason for writing is to commend you both for an excellent, as well as entertaining read. Remaining silent, one does not have the opportunity to praise those things which gives one pleasure, or criticize those things which cause one displeasure. Since the demise of one of my favorite television shows (NBC's "Overnight"), I have been concerned with showing my appreciation for those things I find are well done, but that I've been taking for granted I don't anticipate the unforeseen, but issue #300 could have come and gone and I might never have had the motivation to write.

I dearly enjoy your book I've been with it for awhile, and I marvel at its evolution I love the wonderful characterizations and parodies of past and present comedians and fictional characters I also appreciate the complex social and political society that you, Dave, have created for your characters, even if I do find it all a bit baffling at times. Because of my own haste and the other demands on my reading time, I often find it confusing trying to figure out just who is with what faction. In this situation, the plot-lines become labyrinthine for me. To tell the truth, I wasn't aware of the continuity debate until it was brought up in the letters section. So I'm not complaining -- how can I criticize someone else for my own inattention? --I'm merely trying to say that despite the fact that I usually miss the subtler points of the book (I'll have to go back and reread them all in sequence, sometime), the grand play of emotions and motivation, along with the wonderful characterizations, still provide me with a very satisfy ng form of entertainment.

I like the artwork, although I don't know much about art I find it amazing, Dave, the range of human and aardvarkian emotions that you can bring to the printed page Along with faces, you effectively use the backgrounds to help set the mood and tone of a situation. Your utilisation of black is especially dynamic. I believe you are one of the best comic artists at evoking mood and emotion. (By the way, I remember seeing a blurb somewhere which facetiously announced that there had been a fatal accident at some convention when Frank Miller and Dave Sim accidently spilled their india ink)

I have to make a comment about your letters page. I think they are one of the best in the business The letters are so analytical, so silly Not only are they entertaining, but they are quite informative. How else would I have known that there was a continuity crisis? So, I must surmise that "Cerebus" has one of the most intelligent audiences in the comics industry. Seems like quite a burden to live up to.

I would also like to compliment Deni and Aardvark Vanaheim for publishing "Journey" and "Neil the Horse." With all of the long-underwear characters running around, it is nice to have alternative comics that deal with something other than saving the cosmos every other month If they so desire, I hope Arn Saba and Bill Loebs will also enjoy a 300 issue run.

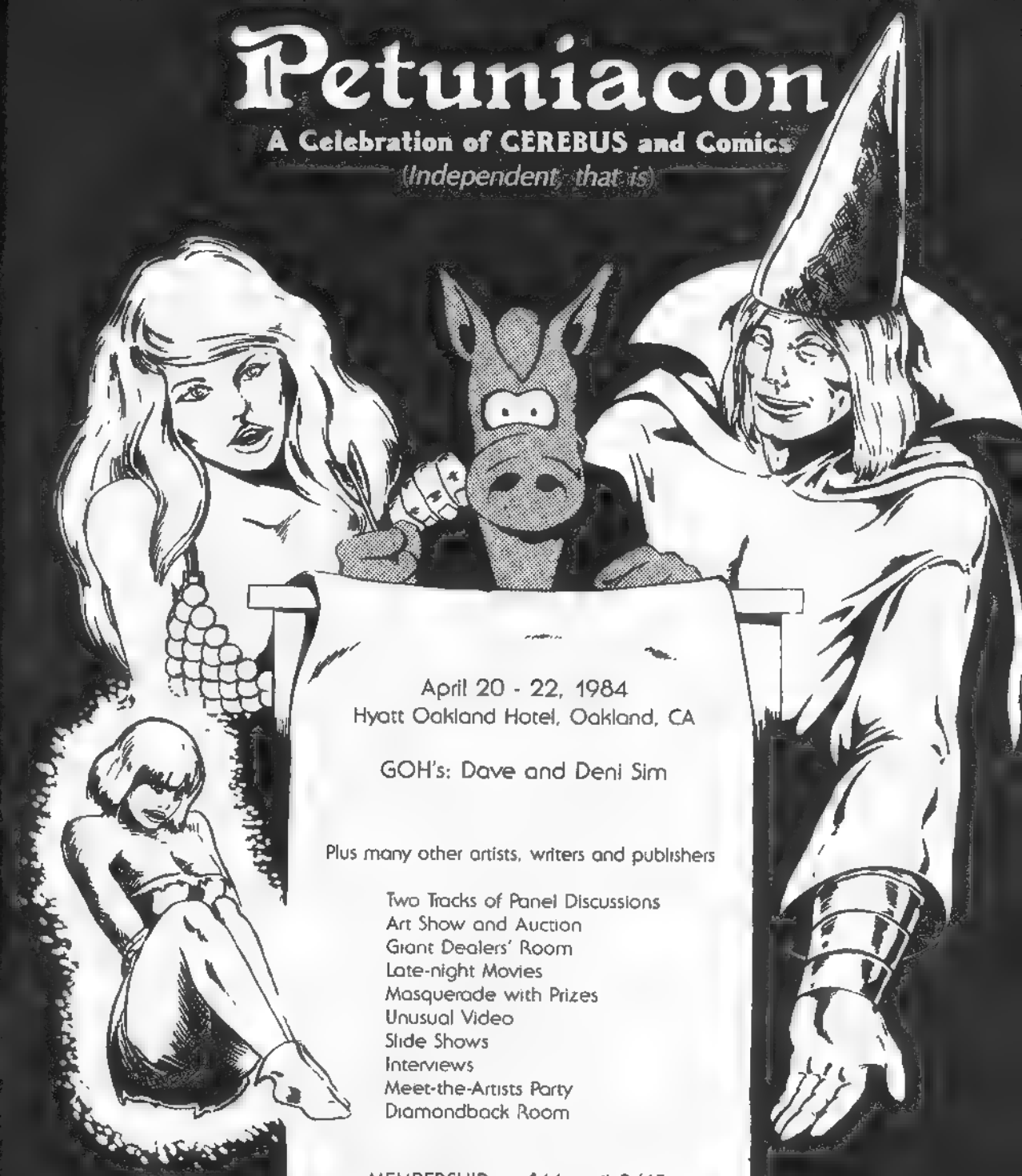
The final reason I'm writing is in regard to Valentino's "Unique" story in issue #50. I found myself empathizing with his story, although my experiences were contrary to Valentino's (I was an adolescent of the 70's, an accident of birth) I, too, remember how the Beatles were involved with the days of my youth And I remember the night John Lennon was killed. It was December 8, 1980

Obviously the date, October 8, 1980,

Petuniacon

A Celebration of CEREBUS and Comics

(Independent, that is)



April 20 - 22, 1984
Hyatt Oakland Hotel, Oakland, CA

GOH's: Dave and Deni Sim

Plus many other artists, writers and publishers

- Two Tracks of Panel Discussions
- Art Show and Auction
- Giant Dealers' Room
- Late-night Movies
- Masquerade with Prizes
- Unusual Video
- Slide Shows
- Interviews
- Meet-the-Artists Party
- Diamondback Room

MEMBERSHIP: $14 until 3/15,
$20 at the door

Membership includes a LIMITED EDITION PRINT by DAVE SIM - done for Petuniacon members ONLY!

Artists: Please write for Art Show rates and information

Room rates: $40 single or double. Rooms specially designed for the handicapped available. Reservation card available from Petuniacon.

Phone Reservations: call 800-228-9000 or 800-268-7500 in Canada, and mention Petuniacon. Rates will be confirmed by mail.

PETUNIACON: Box 15 • 5825 Telegraph Avenue • Oakland, CA 94609

Sergio (Groo the Wanderer) Aragones and Dave (You know who) Sim at Edmonton's Altacon in October of this year. Hi to Bill and Jill and all the other nice people in Edmonton.

which was shown in the story, "In My Life", was a typo or an oversight. However, I have not seen any correction of it to date. Maybe it's because I'm a History major, or just the fact that Lennon's death profoundly touched me, but whatever the reason, I think the record should be set straight, especially since we've just endured the third anniversary of Lennon's murder. For something which is such a heartfelt memory for me, the date should be corrected, if not for those who already commemorate the date, then for those who might not know, but should remember how the Beatles and John Lennon touched a generation.

Now that I've gotten that out of the way, I can return to saying how much I enjoy your comic. At the beginning of High Society, I couldn't imagine how the Earth-pig born would fit into civilization, but now that the High Society segment has ended, I can't imagine Cerebus going back into the wilderness. And it appears that Cerebus isn't going to be leaving the trappings of civilization for awhile. I like the introduction of the Countess -- a new love interest and foil for Cerebus. The development of the Wolveroach is coming along just fine, and I'm anxiously awaiting the return of some of the other recurring characters. Someone I haven't seen for awhile and who I would like to see is Red Sophia. I think it would be interesting to see Red Sophia and the Regency Elf fighting over Cerebus. Or the return, I say, the return of Elrod, in due time don'tcha see. Naturally if some characters were used too much, it wouldn't be as gratifying to see them return. It must be nice, Dave, to have such a large repertory of characters to work with.

The front and back covers and the six-pager by Barry Windsor-Smith is the lastest "Swords" volume were very pleasing. The juxtaposition on the covers of Cerebus coming from the darkness of barbarism and going toward the light of civilization, and the implied conflict, was nicely done and seemed appropriate for the last twenty five or so issues. The intro to the six-pager was superb. I could relate to the situation. BWS is a favorite of mine and I can never get enough of his work.

Finally I hope both of you realize what a pleasure it is to laugh out loud over a simple, but not ordinary funny book. Your work is much-appreciated. I also hope the buzz from this superlatives-on-parade letter has not been to much for both of you, but what can I say? I've been reduced to just another gushing fan of "Cerebus". I wish you both continued success on your comic book excursions. And if the winter's anything like it's been here in Minnesota, I send you a warm and hearty Be-Bop-A-Lula to the fans of Dr. Winston O'Boogie.

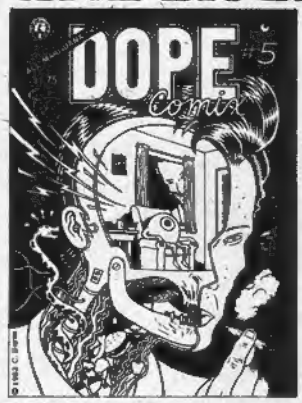
Scott Huffman
2112 Glenview Lane,
Bloomington, Minn
55420

There you have it. Scott's first letter to a comic book. Was it good for you, too, Scott?

* * * * * * * * * * *

KITCHEN SINK PRESS

UNDERGROUNDS ARE NOT DEAD!

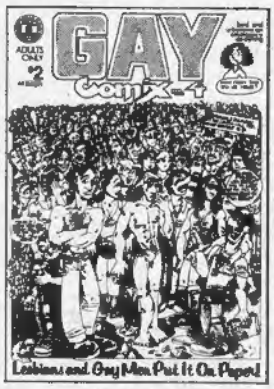


Under the impression that "underground" comix are dead? Don't you believe it! Two new titles are out from Kitchen Sink Press in December and a blockbuster color mini-series in spring!

DOPE COMIX No.5...Terrific cover by **Charles (Raw) Burns** high-lites this all-marijuana issue. Plus: **Steve Stiles**, an "Omaha" story by **Reed Waller, Chris Browne** (son of Dik), **Monte Wolverton** (son of Basil), **Sharon Rudahl, Gary** (Phoebe) **Whitney** & more! $1.75.

GAY COMIX No.4...powerful AIDS story by **Howard Cruse. Vaughn Frick** cover, **Lee Marrs, Kurt Erichsen, Joe Sinardi & Roberta Gregory.** 44 pgs. $2.

Harold Hedd starring in HITLER'S COCAINE...coming in spring! **Baxter paper/full color** adventure story from ultra-talented **Rand Holmes.** Watch future ads for 1st issue's release date.



Color Spirit Comic Book!

The Spirit is now a full-color Baxter paper comic! For the first time ever the classic **Will Eisner** stories are reprinted in chronological order. And what classics they are! **No.2** is on sale in mid-December. It **has better color than ever!** The originals (if you find them) would cost $120+.

Will Eisner's QUARTERLY 1

What a package! The first issue of **Will Eisner's Quarterly** starts off with a brand new **33-page** story, "Life Force," a sequel to the universally acclaimed graphic novel, **A Contract With God. Eisner** proves again with this powerful story that he is at the height of his powers. Also featured is a long **Interview with Neal Adams** —illustrated by many never-before-published examples of Adams' art. Finally—a **16 page color section** which reprints a very early **Spirit** story plus a **Bob Powell Mr. Mystic** —both from 1940! Add a new Eisner cover painting ...all for just $2.95.

HARVEY KURTZMAN & WILL ELDER

GOODMAN BEAVER

The long-awaited **Goodman Beaver** collection, originally announced for November publication, ran into some legal snags and will *not* be available before Christmas. However, it *is* **at press** and will be out soon after Xmas.

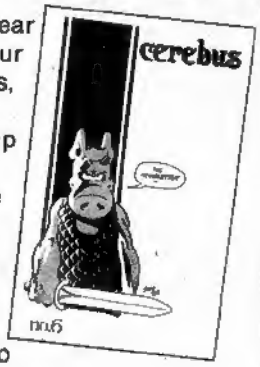
The **Goodman Beaver** book features four complete classic stories by **Harvey Kurtzman** and **Will Elder** plus a lengthy illustrated introduction by **Dave Schreiner** providing background information, commentary by **Elder & Kurtzman** and a synopsis of the ill-fated "Goodman Goes Playboy" story which cannot be included in this volume.
A **deluxe hardcover edition** is available, featuring a color dustjacket, sewn binding and a special plate drawn for this edition and autographed by both **Kurtzman** and **Elder.** Limited to 1250 copies: $25.
Quality paperback edition is also available at $9.95.

KITCHEN SINK PRESS

Available from your favorite comics dealer! If not,order from: Kitchen Sink Press, 2 Swamp Road, Princeton WI 54968 USA

CEREBUS FAN CLUB

$10.00 per year includes four newsletters, bonuses, membership card certificate and more!



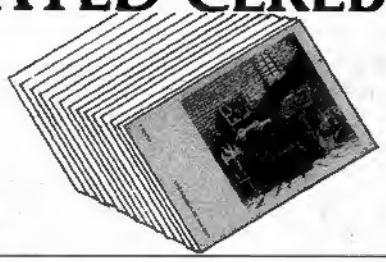
Make Cheques Payable To "Cerebus Fan Club"

COMING IN 1984

FLAMING CARROT

THE ANIMATED CEREBUS portfolio

forty five plates featuring three individual stories.
Unlimited signed edition $12.00 ea.
Signed and numbered edition featuring an original drawing of Cerebus to your specifications $100.00 ea



- HIS FIRST SWORD
- A WELL-EQUIPPED BAR
- ADD ONE MUMMIFIED BAT

SUBSCRIPTIONS RATES ARE EFFECTIVE IMMEDIATELY

NEIL AND NORMALMAN
(6 ISSUES)
3RD CLASS - $14.50 (US) $17.50 (CDN)
1ST CLASS - $16.50 (US) $20.00 (CDN)

CEREBUS & JOURNEY
(12 ISSUES)
3RD CLASS - $29 (US) $35 (CDN)
1ST CLASS - $33 (US) $40 (CDN)

BACK ISSUES AVAILABLE
CEREBUS 26-33 $2.00 EACH CEREBUS 37-57 $1.50 EACH PLUS .75 POST PER BOOK

NEIL THE HORSE

by Arn Saba

classic funny animal stories
in the 1930's animation traditions
$2.50 per copy (includes postage)

JOURNEY

By Bill Loebs

The frontier adventures of
Wolverine Macalistaire
$2.50 per copy (includes postage)

Personal Appearances

FEBRUARY 11, 1984
Fantasia Books
Prince George, B.C.

FEBRUARY 12, 1984
Show Golf Tournament
with Chris Claremont and Sergio Aragones
Prince George, B.C.

FEBRUARY 25, 1984
House of Fantasy "on Pine Ave."
Niagara Falls, N.Y.
Phone (716) 282-8838

MARCH 3, 1984
Somewhat Different
84 Garden Street
Guelph, Ontario

MARCH 17, 1984
Collectors Con
San Jose Civic Auditorium
San Jose, California

SEND TO:

AARDVARK-VANAHEIM INC.

BOX 1674 STATION "C" KITCHENER, ONTARIO CANADA N2G 4R2

ORIGINAL ARTWORK FOR SALE

$35.00 DOLLAR PAGES AS FOLLOWS:

Issue 55 - page 5 (photostats except 1st panel)
Issue 42 - page 1
Issue 42 - page 2
Issue 42 - page 19
Issue 42 - page 20
Issue 41 - page 7 (some photocopy)
Issue 41 - page 20
Issue 40 - page 1
Issue 40 - page 4
Issue 40 - page 14
Issue 38 - page 10
Issue 38 - page 11
Issue 37 - page 5
Issue 37 - page 20
Issue 34 - page 18
Issue 34 - page 20
Issue 32 - page 17
Issue 32 - page 19

$50.00 DOLLAR PAGES AS FOLLOWS:

Issue 52 - page 8
Issue 51 - page 13
Issue 50 - page 2
Issue 50 - page 18
Issue 49 - page 13 (some photocopy)
Issue 49 - page 14
Issue 49 - page 15
Issue 49 - page 16
Issue 49 - page 17
Issue 49 - page 20
Issue 48 - page 6
Issue 48 - page 12
Issue 48 - page 20
Issue 47 - page 3
Issue 47 - page 14
Issue 47 - page 15 (Moon Roach)
Issue 47 - page 17
Issue 47 - page 18
Issue 47 - page 20
Issue 46 - page 17
Issue 44 - page 5
Issue 44 - page 6
Issue 44 - page 14
Issue 44 - page 15
Issue 44 - page 16
Issue 44 - page 17
Issue 44 - page 18
Issue 44 - page 20
Issue 43 - page 1 (with border overlays)
Issue 43 - page 2 (with border overlays)
Issue 43 - page 4 (with border overlays)
Issue 43 - page 5 (with border overlays)
Issue 43 - page 7 (with border overlays)
Issue 43 - page 8 (with border overlays)
Issue 43 - page 9 (with border overlays)
Issue 43 - page 10 (with border overlays)
Issue 43 - page 11 (with border overlays)
Issue 43 - page 12 (with border overlays)
Issue 43 - page 13 (with border overlays)
Issue 43 - page 14 (with border overlays)
Issue 43 - page 15 (with border overlays)
Issue 43 - page 16 (with border overlays)
Issue 43 - page 17 (with border overlays)
Issue 43 - page 18 (with border overlays)
Issue 43 - page 19 (with border overlays)
Issue 43 - page 20 (with border overlays)
Issue 42 - page 5
Issue 42 - page 6
Issue 42 - page 7
Issue 42 - page 8
Issue 42 - page 9
Issue 42 - page 10
Issue 42 - page 11
Issue 42 - page 12
Issue 42 - page 13
Issue 42 - page 17
Issue 42 - page 18
Issue 41 - page 4
Issue 41 - page 5
Issue 41 - page 6
Issue 41 - page 9
Issue 41 - page 11
Issue 41 - page 12
Issue 41 - page 13
Issue 41 - page 15
Issue 41 - page 16
Issue 41 - page 17
Issue 41 - page 18
Issue 41 - page 19
Issue 40 - page 5
Issue 40 - page 6
Issue 40 - page 7
Issue 40 - page 10
Issue 40 - page 15
Issue 40 - page 16
Issue 40 - page 17
Issue 39 - page 6
Issue 39 - page 7
Issue 39 - page 8
Issue 39 - page 9
Issue 39 - page 15
Issue 38 - page 3
Issue 38 - page 4
Issue 38 - page 5
Issue 38 - page 6
Issue 38 - page 7
Issue 38 - page 19
Issue 38 - page 20
Issue 37 - page 3
Issue 37 - page 4
Issue 37 - page 6
Issue 37 - page 7
Issue 37 - page 8
Issue 37 - page 9
Issue 37 - page 10
Issue 37 - page 11
Issue 37 - page 12
Issue 37 - page 13
Issue 37 - page 14
Issue 37 - page 16
Issue 37 - page 17
Issue 37 - page 18
Issue 34 - page 11
Issue 34 - page 12
Issue 34 - page 13
Issue 34 - page 14
Issue 34 - page 15
Issue 34 - page 16
Issue 34 - page 17
Issue 33 - page 6
Issue 33 - page 12
Issue 33 - page 13
Issue 33 - page 14
Issue 33 - page 15
Issue 33 - page 16
Issue 33 - page 18
Issue 33 - page 19
Issue 32 - page 2
Issue 32 - page 6
Issue 32 - page 7
Issue 32 - page 15
Issue 32 - page 16
Issue 31 - page 7
Issue 30 - page 3
Issue 30 - page 4
Issue 30 - page 5
Issue 30 - page 6
Issue 30 - page 10
Issue 30 - page 11
Issue 30 - page 13
Issue 30 - page 14
Issue 30 - page 15
Issue 30 - page 16
Issue 29 - page 11
Issue 29 - page 12
Issue 29 - page 18

$75.00 DOLLAR PAGES AS FOLLOWS:

Issue 55 - page 12
Issue 55 - page 15
Issue 54 - page 11
Issue 54 - page 12
Issue 54 - page 16
Issue 54 - page 19
Issue 54 - page 20
Issue 53 - page 1
Issue 53 - page 2
Issue 53 - page 3
Issue 53 - page 4
Issue 53 - page 7
Issue 53 - page 8
Issue 53 - page 11
Issue 53 - page 12
Issue 53 - page 20 (Wolveroach)
Issue 52 - page 10
Issue 52 - page 11
Issue 52 - page 12
Issue 52 - page 13
Issue 52 - page 14
Issue 52 - page 15
Issue 52 - page 18
Issue 52 - page 19
Issue 52 - page 20
Issue 51 - page 6
Issue 51 - page 7
Issue 51 - page 8
Issue 51 - page 14
Issue 50 - page 19
Issue 49 - page 4 (plus overlay)
Issue 49 - page 10
Issue 49 - page 11
Issue 49 - page 12 (turning page)
Issue 49 - page 19
Issue 48 - page 2
Issue 48 - page 3
Issue 48 - page 5
Issue 48 - page 9
Issue 48 - page 10
Issue 47 - page 2
Issue 47 - page 4 (Moon Roach)
Issue 47 - page 5 (Moon Roach)
Issue 47 - page 6 (Moon Roach)
Issue 47 - page 7
Issue 47 - page 8
Issue 46 - page 2
Issue 46 - page 3
Issue 46 - page 4
Issue 46 - page 5
Issue 46 - page 6
Issue 46 - page 7
Issue 46 - page 8
Issue 46 - page 13
Issue 46 - page 15
Issue 46 - page 16
Issue 46 - page 18
Issue 46 - page 20
Issue 44 - page 2
Issue 44 - page 3
Issue 44 - page 4
Issue 42 - page 3
Issue 42 - page 4
Issue 42 - page 15
Issue 42 - page 16
Issue 41 - page 8 (Elf and Moon Roach)
Issue 41 - page 15
Issue 40 - page 2
Issue 40 - page 11
Issue 40 - page 12
Issue 40 - page 13
Issue 39 - page 12
Issue 39 - page 13
Issue 39 - page 17
Issue 39 - page 18
Issue 39 - page 19
Issue 38 - page 8
Issue 38 - page 9
Issue 38 - page 12
Issue 37 - page 19
Issue 35 - page 2
Issue 35 - page 6
Issue 35 - page 7
Issue 35 - page 8
Issue 35 - page 9
Issue 35 - page 10
Issue 35 - page 11
Issue 35 - page 13
Issue 35 - page 14
Issue 35 - page 15
Issue 35 - page 17
Issue 34 - page 3
Issue 34 - page 5
Issue 34 - page 7
Issue 34 - page 8
Issue 34 - page 9
Issue 34 - page 10
Issue 33 - page 2
Issue 33 - page 3
Issue 33 - page 4
Issue 33 - page 5
Issue 33 - page 7
Issue 33 - page 8
Issue 33 - page 20
Issue 32 - page 9
Issue 32 - page 12
Issue 32 - page 14
Issue 31 - page 2
Issue 31 - page 3
Issue 31 - page 4
Issue 31 - page 5
Issue 31 - page 6
Issue 31 - page 8
Issue 31 - page 9
Issue 31 - page 16
Issue 31 - page 17
Issue 31 - page 18
Issue 30 - page 8
Issue 30 - page 18
Issue 30 - page 19
Issue 29 - page 2
Issue 29 - page 3
Issue 29 - page 9
Issue 29 - page 14

$100.00 DOLLAR PAGES AS FOLLOWS:

Issue 54 - page 2
Issue 54 - page 3
Issue 54 - page 4
Issue 54 - page 5 (Cockroach)
Issue 54 - page 7 (Captain Cockroach)
Issue 54 - page 9 (Moon Roach)
Issue 54 - page 10
Issue 54 - page 13 (rare whore reference)
Issue 53 - page 5
Issue 53 - page 6
Issue 53 - page 14
Issue 53 - page 15
Issue 53 - page 16
Issue 53 - page 17
Issue 53 - page 19 (1st Wolveroach)
Issue 52 - page 1
Issue 52 - page 4
Issue 52 - page 16
Issue 52 - page 17
Issue 51 - page 5
Issue 50 - page 13
Issue 49 - page 1
Issue 49 - page 2
Issue 49 - page 3
Issue 49 - page 5
Issue 49 - page 6 (turning page)
Issue 49 - page 7 (turning page)
Issue 49 - page 8 (turning page)
Issue 49 - page 9 (turning page)
Issue 48 - page 1
Issue 48 - page 4
Issue 48 - page 7
Issue 48 - page 8
Issue 48 - page 11
Issue 47 - page 1
Issue 47 - page 13 (Moon Roach)
Issue 46 - page 1
Issue 44 - page 1
Issue 53 - page 9

SEND TO:

AARDVARK-VANAHEIM INC.

BOX 1674 STATION "C" KITCHENER. ONTARIO CANADA N2G 4R2

Watch for the FIRST ISSUE OF...

normalman — the COMIC !! IN FULL COLOR!

MAN, ANIMAL, VEGETABLE AND MINERAL ALIKE CRINGE AT THE VERY THOUGHT OF...

the EXCRUCIATINGLY AVERAGE **normal-man**

YOU WILL GAPE AT THE UTTER ABSURDITY OF...

normalman's Pal **CAPTAIN EVERYTHING**

FEATURING THE ROLL CALL OF...

THE LEGION OF SUPERFLUOUS HEROES

Plus **SGT. FLUFFY** OF COURSE!

YOU CANNOT AFFORD TO ~~BUY~~ MISS THIS ISSUE!

CEREBUS AV AARDVARK-VANHELSING
STILL $1.60
JAN. NO 1
normalman
featuring No Scene Even REMOTELY Like This, INSIDE!
OUR SON WON'T PERISH WHEN OUR DOOMED WORLD EXPLODES! THIS ROCKET WILL TAKE HIM TO A SAFE PLANET!
M... MY BABY!!
CEREBUS AV AARDVARK-VANHELSING

"YOU **WILL** BELIEVE A COMIC **CAN** BE **FUNNY!**"

Extra! A CAMEO APPEARANCE BY THE... **JUSTICE LEAGUE of SOCIETY**

A MUST-HAVE, DOUBLE-BAG COLLECTOR'S ITEM ISSUE!!

ON SALE IN JANUARY

DON'T MISS IT!

Actual Size